U.S. Department of Justice



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District of New Hampshire

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MEDIA RELEASE For Immediate Release November 25, 2003 Thomas P. Colantuono United States Attorney Mark S. Zuckerman Assistant U.S. Attorney (603) 225-1552

WOMAN SENTENCED FOR PASSPORT FRAUD

Contact:

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – United States Attorney Tom Colantuono announced today that Kafilat Oluwatoyin Folajaiye, 25, of Brooklyn, NY, was sentenced to serve one year of probation for committing passport fraud. Folajaiye pled guilty in August to one charge of passport fraud in U. S. District Court in Concord. Special Agents of the Department of Homeland Security's Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement may now seek her deportation.

Folajaiye, a citizen of Nigeria, admitted to providing false information in her passport application. Claiming to have been born in the U. S. Virgin Islands, Folajaiye submitted a counterfeit birth certificate declaring that she was born in St. Croix, along with her passport application form, in November of 2000. The case resulted from an extensive investigation by the U.S. Department of State Diplomatic Security Service from the "National Passport Center" in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

U. S. Attorney Colantuono highly commended the U. S. Department of State Diplomatic Security Service for what he termed the "exceptionally diligent and efficient" handling of the investigation, which is part of the government's "Operation Checkmate" initiative.

Folajaiye was sentenced by U. S. District Court Judge Paul Barbadoro. Assistant U. S. Attorney Mark S. Zuckerman prosecuted this case.